

Industrial Power Only Can Secure Industrial Justice

Washington.—"Political power is only reflected power—reflected from the economic," writes President Gompers in this month's issue of the American Federationist.

The article is entitled "Economic Power Dominates," and the trade union executive has this to say of the power workers hold, through organization on the industrial field:

"Several years ago when the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was held in St. Louis at the same time as the national rivers and harbors congress, one of the well-known current periodicals published a review of the labor convention, commented on the ability of the delegates, the scope of the work of the convention and contrasted its policies with those of the national rivers and harbors congress. The review ended with the question, which was an implied criticism: Why does not organized labor go to Congress? This same query was recently expressed in an editorial published in the New York World.

"Each year that has gone by has made more evident the soundness of the principles which the trade unionists have followed. As the dynamic forces in the lives of the people stand out sharply in some test that cuts through to bed-rock fundamentals, the strength and the nature of economic power is revealed. Those who had the understanding to interpret such flashlight glimpses into the heart of things and who can sense the hidden currents that are propelling the forward surge of life, know that those who handle the tools and materials of production, have in their hands the great powers of the common life. Creative ability is that which gives men and women influence and value. Men and women who can do things have an importance and a power because of that ability.

"Only from a superficial viewpoint does this emphasis upon creative power appear materialistic—because attention is focused upon the products created rather than upon that greater, more beautiful thing, the wonderful, mysterious, spiritual force that gives direction and purpose to physical forces in production.

"The problems of those who handle the tools and who do the actual work of production, have been to secure recognition of the value of their creative services and to maintain the right of freedom to control their bodies and their individual powers while all the time endeavoring to obtain greater opportunities and facilities for personal development and activity. These problems are problems of economic rela-

tions between themselves and those who produce and those who happen to enjoy strategic advantages in the determining distribution of the returns from production. Only a powerful industrial force can maintain industrial justice and secure for those who produce adequate return for their services.

"As individuals the workers can not exercise sufficient influence to maintain their rights or industrial justice, but united they have power in proportion to their joint intelligence, needs and aspirations.

"The problems to be solved and the forces that will be effective are economic—hence the wisdom of the policy that the A. F. of L. has steadfastly pursued. There have been many other advisers, some sincere, others actuated by ulterior purposes, who have advised their wage-earners to put their faith in the ballot and to 'go to Congress.' But politics is concerned with providing opportunities, maintaining the right to activities, establishing ways and means by which things can be done—politics does not enter directly and intimately into industrial relations. Politics is a secondary force in industrial affairs.

"Every day is demonstrating that the center of power has shifted from politics and government to industry and commerce. Political power is only reflected power—reflected from the economic.

"This transition makes organization of industrial relations for the establishment of ideals of justice of transcendent importance. It makes the meeting and the deliberations of representatives of millions of wage-earners of very great significance to the nation and to the whole world.

"The matters that are to come before the thirty-fifth annual convention of the American trade union movement are of general concern. They are intimately interwoven with forces and conditions that have a determining influence upon the future of our nation. The decisions of the coming convention will be closely followed by those who understand the present age, for they are of greater importance to a larger proportion of our people, now and for all time, than the decisions of any other organization.

"Of course, labor will 'go to Congress,' but it will be for the purpose of securing the largest degree of freedom to exercise the necessary normal activities of the workers for economic betterment; for the constructive work which the government alone can enact; and to voice the new demand for labor's complete disenfranchisement from every form and fact of unfreedom and inequality before the law."

CITY PAYS LOW WAGES.

Topeka, Kan.—Over one-half of the 298 employees of this city are receiving either a bare living wage, which allows them to lay up nothing for emergencies, or they are getting less than a living wage, declares the Topeka Daily Capital. One hundred and twenty-three employees receive less than \$64.75 a month, "which is \$10.25 less than a living wage." The average wage, including all the officials who receive salaries of \$100 a month or over, is \$70.52, which is \$4.18 less than a living wage.

"Many investigations have been made of living conditions of laborers," says the Daily Capital, "and they have revealed that \$900 a year is the least a family can live comfortably and protect itself against emergencies. That wage means \$75 a month."

REAL EFFICIENCY FAVORED.

St. Louis, Mo.—The Central Trades and Labor Union have accepted a report of its legislative committee that organized labor can not afford to support those who aim to cripple the work of the municipal efficiency board, as the trade union movement stands for good wages and is ready to give an equivalent of service in return.

The committee says: "We wish to say that after investigation we are of the opinion that this is in reality a contest between the old-time patronage spoils system and an efficient merit system of public service."

HAVE RIGHT TO JOIN UNION.

Denver.—President McIlhenny, of the United States Civil Service Commission, writes Secretary-Treasurer Walter, of the Brotherhood of Railway Postal Clerks that the Commission's order against political activity of Mare Island Navy Yard employees was not an attack against unionists. The Commissioner says: "No attempt was made to deny to employees the privilege of membership in labor unions or to restrict their political activities to any greater degree than the activity of other employees who are not members of labor unions are restricted."

WHY COPPER MINERS STRUCK.

Clifton, Ariz.—Striking miners and other employees in this copper district are standing firm and deny the stories of rioting and disorder manufactured by operators. There are about 5,000 workers on strike, roughly divided as follows: 500 Americans, 3,000 Mexicans and Spaniards and 1,500 Italians, Austrians and Slavs. Nearly a dozen dialects and languages are spoken by these workers, most of whom know practically nothing of trade unionism, but who were compelled to organize because of unbearable conditions.

The strikers claim they were forced to patronize company stores and contribute \$2 a month if married and \$1.50 a month if single to the hospital fee. Each man in Morenci, it is charged, must pay the company \$1.25 per month for water rent. If six members of a family are employed, they must pay \$7.50 for water rent alone, irrespective of how little may be actually used.

The operators have refused to arbitrate the strike and have delivered an ultimatum in which they say:

"When it shall appear that conditions in this section warrant it and the companies are satisfied that the general sentiment of the community and their former employees is unanimous in favor of a resumption of operations on the basis of wages and conditions that have prevailed heretofore in this district, the companies reserve to themselves the right to decide whether or not they shall again start up their plants."

WOMEN NEED UNIONISM.

Dallas, Tex.—A protest against conditions under which women labor was one of the features of an address by General President Hedrick of the brotherhood of painters. The unionist said organization of women in trade unions was necessary, as there were some factories where their lives were almost human slavery. In recounting the activities of the organized workers, President Hedrick said that during the last 20 years the trade union movement has taken part in every social reform for the protection of wage earners. In speaking of his own trade, he referred to the 11-hour day for \$1.50 to \$2 per day before organization. Now an eight-hour day, at \$4 is the rule.

FIGHT OPENED FOR CITY PLANT

Federated Improvement Associations Names Committee to Look Into Question of Electric Business.

PROJECT MAY BE PUT ON INITIATIVE BALLOT.

"We have a great city, a magnificent citizenship. We have done great deeds, and let us not believe we can not now do them. I will not entertain the idea that a municipality with the intelligence and courage to build the Southern Railroad through three sovereign States, to build our great waterworks, to construct the other enterprises owned by this municipality, is unable to muster the courage and intellect to build a municipal electric light plant, to own and operate street cars. I am tired of all this talk about rates. Let us undertake this work ourselves, and then we will know for a certainty what rates and fare can actually be given.

Says It Is Only Solution.

Did those words come from a crackpot orator? Bless you, no. They were uttered by Dan Williams, one of the most pronounced members of the Republican organization in Cincinnati and a deputy clerk in the Probate Court. Williams is a delegate to the Federated Improvement Associations, and it was yesterday at the meeting of the association in the Gibson House that he spoke. Mr. Williams continued:

"Gentlemen, we seem to be afraid, we seem constantly to be ducking the question. There is no other solution than the one I have indicated. A city like Cincinnati should exercise the functions that properly belong to it. It is humiliating to be constantly begging, to be holding out our hat for the alms of the utility corporations.

"Making Ourselves Silly."

"These corporations can not say they are not making money. Look at the increase of values immediately after the election. We are making ourselves positively silly. If we do as I believe we ought to do, as we can do, we will forever have done with all this effort after fair play and a square deal.

"Why, the car I rode down on this morning had far more people hanging onto straps than were seated. In the days of the old horse cars they were given better than a 5-cent fare, we got six tickets for a quarter. Will anybody say that now with electricity it costs anything like as much to haul or drive a street car?

Fifteen years ago the owners of the Cincinnati Street Railroad Company said their property was worth \$20,000,000. They certainly did not underestimate it. The gamble is that they were pretty liberal in their estimate. And they only wanted 6 per cent on this valuation.

"Now we ought to be able to duplicate that, ought to pay not for water, but for actual work.

Says Hooks Await Dilatory.

"If we supinely sit with folded hands, if we say nothing can be done save run up to Columbus or to the courts we ought to get the hooks. Any people who hold themselves so cheaply as the conduct we have been guilty of in respect to public utilities would indicate can not expect corporations to hold them at any other than their own price.

"Some people say municipalization would result in a horde of officials being added. But the men who would run the cars are now employed. It creates no new positions, it would only change the employer.

"There is nothing revolutionary in what I have been saying. This very city in which we live has led the world in some aspects of municipal ownership. Look to Germany, look to Great Britain, the two leading nations in the great war and see their cities doing what I advocate. It is not an innovation, not an untried experiment.

"Let Us Be Men."

"Let us believe in our own strength, trust in our own intelligence. Let us cease to be beggars. Let us be men."

Mr. Williams was applauded, and after speeches by several other delegates the association voted unanimously to instruct the Law Committee of the Federation to report at the next meeting the steps that will be necessary to put an initiative petition on the ballot for the construction of a municipal electric plant.

One of the delegates said he was in favor of municipal ownership, but had voted for the nine-cent electric rate ordinance at the referendum at the election, November 2. He said he did this because as matters stood there was not the alternative of municipal ownership presented, and if the ordinance was voted down it would simply mean to go over the same procedure.

Then the Democrats had made a political issue out of the ordinance, and he being a Republican, resented this attempt to drag the matter into partisan politics.

Shies at Columbus Crowd.

Delegate Morrison of the Clifton Association had brought up the public utility question by saying he did not think the people generally were informed

about the question of electricity, gas and transportation.

Most of the delegates were opposed to taking such local questions up with rural gentlemen sitting 125 miles away at Columbus, but they allowed to be adopted a motion that a committee consisting of the president of the Federation and the chairman of the Committee on Law and Light confer with the State Public Utilities Commission, and if possible, have the commission sit in Cincinnati on the electric rate ordinance.

EASTERN TEAMSTERS STRIKE.

Springfield, Mass.—A strike followed the discharge of nine teamsters employed by the American Express Company because they refused to withdraw from the Teamsters' Union.

The company is now called upon to pay 25 cents an hour for overtime and grant a 10-hour day. The teamsters say they are forced to work from 12 to 17 hours a day, and that they receive on an average, \$13.85 a week. Most of the drivers begin work at 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning and are allowed 15 minutes for lunch at 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. They are then worked, in many cases, until 9 and 10 o'clock at night, with no pay for overtime.

When the men joined the union they were told the company "would give them a square deal" if they withdrew, but they had heard this promise before.

NEW PACIFIC BOAT LINE.

New York.—The Pacific and Eastern Steamship Company, a \$2,000,000 corporation has been organized with offices in this city, for the purpose of replacing the Pacific Steamship Company. The new line will operate under the American flag.

The Pacific Mail recently sold its vessels to an Eastern company and stated that it was forced out of business by the new seamen's law. Secretary of Commerce Redfield replied that a profit of \$1,000,000 might have been a factor in the transaction.

The new company supports the claim of defenders of the seamen's law that the American flag will continue to fly with profit over vessels in the Oriental service doing business under humane conditions.

R. R. CLERKS STRIKE.

Detroit.—Several hundred railroad clerks employed along the line of the Michigan Central railroad are on strike to enforce wage increases, recognition of seniority rights and improved working conditions. The clerks authorized President Forrester to call a strike if the demands were not considered. Officials, according to President Forrester, "positively refused to meet and treat with your committee, or, through mediation, to grant you any concession that would be stable."

FIVE-DAY WEEK FOR PAINTERS.

San Francisco.—By a referendum vote painters in this city and vicinity will work but five days a week, beginning November 1. No work will be done on Saturdays and pay day will be on Friday evenings. The new rule will be in effect until March 31, 1916. Equalization of work during the dull winter months is the purpose of this plan.

ENGINEERS ARE INCOMPETENT.

Kansas City, Mo.—The Steam Engineers' Union has protested against the action of the city school board in employing incompetent engineers. The unionists say the board ignores the state law, which provides for the licensing of all engineers, and that this condition jeopardizes the lives of children.

POOR DIET CAUSES PELLAGRA.

Jackson, Miss.—Dr. Joseph Goldberger, of the United States Public Health Service, is said to have proven his theory that pellagra is produced by unbalanced diet and can be cured by a balanced ration.

Twelve convicts were put on a diet which excluded milk, fresh lean meat, eggs, peas, and beans. Six prisoners now have pellagra.

"MITCHELL DAY" OBSERVED.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—Miners in the anthracite district of this state observed "Mitchell day" in honor of the termination of the strike in this section conducted by John Mitchell, then president of the United Mine Workers of America.

STREET CAR MEN STRIKE DESPITE COURT ORDERS

Fort Wayne, Ind.—The petition for a permanent injunction against the employees of the Fort Wayne & Northern Indiana Traction Company, to prevent them from striking, has been dismissed in Judge Anderson's Federal Court at Indianapolis, on motion of the company's attorney, who is quoted as saying there was no longer any reason for keeping the case on the docket, as "the strike occurred in spite of the suit." Officials of the company acknowledged the purpose of the order had failed. After the men struck on September 27 last, in defiance of the injunction, there was nothing to do but punish them for contempt, but that "was a mere minor matter," according to President Barrett, of the company, who favored dismissing the suit, as it is agreed that the jailing of a few workers would not terrify the others.

Following the dismissal of this injunction, the company requested Judge Anderson to issue another injunction against several city officials and about 50 trade unionists to restrain them from "interfering" with the company's affairs. The city officials are charged with "conspiring" with the workers to "injure the company's property."

A short time ago the company asked city officials to furnish special police to protect the property of the company from "anticipated violence." The mayor and police officials replied that as the company had refused to arbitrate, and thereby protect the public, the people's money would not be placed at its disposal and it could, therefore, employ its own special police.

BURLESON WARNED.

Washington.—Postmaster General Burleson has received a letter, warning him to keep out of Ohio politics. Friends of both Judson Harmon and James M. Cox are seeking to gain the support of the administration for the next Ohio governorship. So far it appears that Burleson has not taken any stand in the matter. The Postmaster General refused to give any information about the signer of the letter or the exact phrases used.

MAYOR WARNS STRIKE GUNMEN

Summit, N. J.—Mayor Bergen has notified officials of the Summit silk mills that he will cause the arrest of imported detectives and gunmen if they pursue their usual tactics in this place. Several hundred men and women are on strike for higher wages and better working conditions, and the company has imported detectives to "protect" their strike-breakers. When the gunmen arrived, Mayor Berger warned the company that strong-arm methods would not be tolerated.

WELL-KNOWN PRESSMAN DEAD.

St. Louis, Mo.—Theodore F. Galowsky, ex-president and secretary of the International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union, died in this city after a long illness. Deceased was a prominent figure in the trade union movement. He leaves a wife and three children.

WOMEN MILL WORKERS STRIKE.

Houston, Tex.—Wages that range as low as 95 cents a day forced 300 employees of the Monument mills on strike. These workers are mostly women. They are asking for increases of 15 to 25 cents a day.

MACHINISTS MAKE GAINS.

Cleveland.—After a strike of two weeks, 100 machinists employed at the Bardon & Oliver plant have returned to work. Improved working conditions are promised.

SHORTER HOURS FOR BARBERS.

Wheeling, W. Va.—Many barber employees favor the reduction of working hours, urged by the Barbers' Union. Closing hours at present are 7:30 o'clock five days a week and 10 o'clock on Saturdays.

USE JOHNSTON'S DULL KOTE PAINT.

It dries perfectly flat without lustre, washed and cleaned like tile. Color folder free. Buy it from your dealer, or

THE R. F. JOHNSTON PAINT CO., Pearl and Main Sts., Cincinnati, O.

MEN Consult DR. MACKENBACH, New York Post-Graduate

PRACTICE LIMITED TO THE TREATMENT OF MEN

When selecting your physician for the treatment of your ailment, REMEMBER Dr. Mackenbach is the only Specialist in Cincinnati who advertises the treatment of AILMENTS OF MEN who is a POST-GRADUATE in this special line of treatment. Sufferers from all AILMENTS PECULIAR TO MEN, lately or of long standing, should come to see me at once. I give you the benefit of my many years' experience in the treatment of these special ailments, together with the experience and knowledge gained during my New York POST-GRADUATE AND CLINIC studies.

606 and 914 ADMINISTERED INTRAVENOUSLY No. 11 W. Fifth St.

OFFICE HOURS: 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.; Fridays and Sundays, 9 to 12 a. m.; Mon., Wed. and Saturday Evenings, 7 to 8 and by Appointment.